

App. No. 09/912,615
Amendment Dated: June 25, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed March 25, 2004 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 1-12, 14-30 and 32-54 are rejected. Claims 13 and 31 are objected to by the Office Action. Claims 1-54 have been canceled. Claims 55-68 have been added. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Claim 55 has been added to include the limitations of Claims 12 and 13, which are now canceled. Similarly, Claim 62 has been added to include the limitations of Claims 30 and 31, which are also canceled. Claims 14-19 (which have been canceled) have been rewritten as Claims 56-61 to depend from allowable Claim 55. Claims 32-37 (which have been canceled) have been rewritten as Claims 63-68 to depend upon allowable Claim 62.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

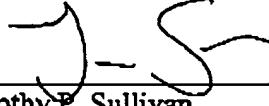
JUN-25-04 13:18 FROM-MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

206-342-6201

T-141 P.008/008 F-434

App. No. 09/912,615
Amendment Dated: June 25, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2004

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.



Timothy P. Sullivan
Registration No. 47,981
Direct Dial: 206.342.6254

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
206.342.6200

